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February 26, 2007

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

The Committee on Environment and Energy met on February 26, 2007, with Chairman Robert Trane, presiding and Committee Member Alderman William Roche also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen Bruce Desmond, Dennis Sullivan and William White as well as Michael Lambert from the Mayor's Office, Environmental Program Manager Peter Mills, Carlene Campbell from SPCD, representatives from UniFirst, GEI Consultants, AMEC, Goodwin Procter, DEP and several concerned citizens.

Ileen Gladstone from GEI Consultants addressed the committee. Her remarks have been summarized, as follows:

1. Overview of Regulatory Process
 - The investigation is proceeding under 21E guidelines, delegating authority over the site investigation and cleanup to the DEP
 - The Mass Contingency Plan process is a detailed scientific evaluation and is used throughout the country and by the federal government
 - UniFirst is continuing to notify the public of meetings so that the process remains open and so that information can be given to them
 - The Phase 1 investigation was completed in 2006
 - The Phase 2 study will look into the contamination of the ground to determine how widespread the problem might be and to develop methods for cleanup and remediation
2. Historic and recent subsurface investigations
 - Groundwater wells have been installed in some areas and soil gas and groundwater samples have been collected
 - Indoor testing has been performed on Tufts Street
 - Testing over the last year has been variable
 - Tests were performed at 106-108 Dell Street and at the Legion Hall with no groundwater contamination detected on Dell Street
 - There is significant well contamination on Knowlton Street
 - It appears that the groundwater contamination is following a narrow corridor from Tufts Street
3. Historic and recent indoor air testing
 - No detected contamination on Dell Street
 - Low levels of contamination detected Knowlton Street
 - Higher levels of contamination detected on Franklin Street

- GEI wants to look at homes that may be affected and take a step by step conservative approach to conduct a detailed investigation
 - A wide net will be cast to ensure that all possible areas are covered
4. Evaluations of nearby residences and buildings
- Additional wells will be installed and collected data will be evaluated
 - Homes will be evaluated individually
 - Air purifiers will be given to homeowners whose homes show levels of soil gas that could impact the homes
 - For those homes, sub slab depressurization systems will be installed to intercept the vapors prior to building entry. This will be a permanent mitigation process for owners.
5. Next steps
- GEI will continue to monitor the sub slab at the Capuano School
 - GEI will complete the evaluations on Tufts and Knowlton Streets
 - GEI will contact owners in other areas to schedule basement evaluations
 - GEI will continue to investigate and map sub surface contamination

Chairman Trane requested that GEI provide copies of all materials regarding 50 Tufts Street to the City Clerk for public viewing.

Residents also asked that materials be made available to the general public and expressed concern as to why the contaminated site isn't being cleaned immediately.

Alderman Roche requested that GEI provide the numbers of readings of contamination and provide data of the core results from the lab, as outlined in the map, to the City Clerk for public viewing. Alderman Roche further requested that a chart and data tables regarding the testing and contamination be compiled and provided to the City Clerk for public viewing.

Alderman Roche's motion *that GEI provide written results, in text, chart and table form, of all groundwater and indoor testing on properties in the outlines area and bring the results of the tests to the next meeting of the committee* was approved.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following ## items:

Alderman Robert Trane, Chairman
Committee on Environmental Energy

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Environment
and Energy, February 26, 2007

In Board of Aldermen

Clerk